

THE CONDITIONS IN LIBERIA.

MINISTER LYON CRITICIZES AMERICAN MISSIONARIES.

He Says They Are as Much Interested in Trade as in Saving Souls—Astonishing Physical and Moral Degeneracy of Foreigners Who Live in the Republic.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Ernest Lyon, the United States Minister to Liberia, in a long report to the State Department, severely criticizes American missionaries in Africa. Mr. Lyon says:

"Many of the missionaries have adopted the better system in their work among the natives. This places the missionary on the same level with the trader. The enormous profit made is a temptation to good men, many of whom have turned aside for filthy lucre. From 150 to 200 per cent, sometimes more, is made on some things. The Government has been liberal to the missionaries in allowing free entry to everything used by them in their work. The Muhlenberg station ships coffee to the United States.

"A lady who has been a missionary at Monrovia for twenty-five years deals in kerosene oil and other commodities, which are sold at a profit. The popular opinion is that some of these interfering missionaries are quite as much interested in their own pockets as in the souls of the heathen. It would be far better if the boards in the United States under whose auspices they operate would relieve the workers in Africa from this practice by supplying them with sufficient means with which to carry on the work without it."

State Department officers consider that Mr. Lyon's report is remarkable, not only because of the insight it gives into conditions in Liberia, about which but little has heretofore been known, but also for the interesting manner in which it is written. Minister Lyon is a colored man, was formerly a minister of the Methodist Church in Baltimore and is well thought of in Washington. Mr. Lyon says:

"I have just returned from a trip into the interior. The objective point was Doubles Island, but the annual rice harvest and rivers rendered it difficult, and we were compelled to end our journey at Kponia Hill, the site of an important town, the entrance to which lies hidden in a dense forest.

"The traveler who travels by hammock finds himself swinging to and fro, suspended from a horizontal bar whose ends rest on the shoulders of two stalwart natives, who rush him at breakneck speed through narrow and uneven paths, over dangerous ravines and huge logs which block the way. Sometimes the uneven height of the carriers excites some suffering to the victim, which the native enjoys richly.

"The absence of railroads and of every other vehicle or convenience for travel in Liberia is a serious drawback to the development and prosperity of the republic. For this reason very few Americans venture into the interior. Only the foreigner ventures. Because of his willingness to assume the difficulties of the journey he becomes at once the object of curious wonder."

Minister Lyon has the following to say about physical and moral degeneracy of foreigners in Liberia:

"It is astonishing how quickly the foreigner degenerates in Africa. He is himself conscious of this degeneracy, but is apparently powerless to do anything about it. The climate conditions influence the mental and moral as well as the physical and social environments. Africa is the home of some peculiar maladies; among the most violent are the fever, the ulcer, the kra-kra and the yawa. A stranger in coming to Africa is sure to have the African fever, the equivalent of which sometimes manifests itself in an ulcer which has been known to fasten itself upon the body, with all its hideous consequences, for more than two years. The climate and the fever leave the victim with his energy gone, his health impaired and his will shattered. European hunters have been known to make annual trips to the Maderia Islands or to the Continent to build up the waste places, for which there seems to be no remedy here."

"The social life of the interior has a degenerating tendency on the morals of the foreigner also. Illustrations in social and moral degeneracy are numerous among white and black foreigners. These victims have not been confined to the secular life, but have been found in the religious life also. Men and women who came to teach the African have been found among the victims not merely of heathenism, but of wanton immorality."

Minister Lyon's report contains the following picture of the African warrior:

"The traveler would conclude from appearances that Africa must be a land of warriors. Every man appears as a warrior. He seems to live always in the fear of the enemy, and in the shadow of the great evil which prompts him to go armed from head to foot. With his sword he defends himself from the enemy and with his charms he protects himself from the evil. His arms, which are a part of his dress, consist of a short sword, a country knife, a spear and a bow and arrow, which he uses with great precision. It is of frequent occurrence for boys between the ages of 8 and 9 years to stick a piece of chip about an inch and a half in width in the ground or in the limb of a tree and, at a distance of 200 feet, to split it in halves with the arrows from their bows."

"The country knife is indispensable to the native. It is his most effective weapon of defense. With it he can successfully meet the attacks of the bee, the scorpion, the snake, the ravenous beasts and poisonous reptiles, of which he has but little fear. The only animal which he seems to dread is a leopard and pursue a hippopotamus, but he will fly in mad haste from the hideous yells of a lioness, which resemble the cry of a man in distress. This sound unnerves him, and despite his reputation for courage he will desert you in the densest forest."

"Our party had an illustration of this during the trip. When in the midst of a thick bush, ten miles away from any settlement, we heard this doleful noise, which we mistook for the cry of a lioness. In a moment some misguided traveler, the natives came to a halt. They knew what it was and in their discomfiture started to leave us in the thickest forest, but the natives in charge of our firearms brought them to their senses."

COL. ASTOR'S HOUSE ROBBED.

The Layers Arrested at Instance of Firm Which Sent Them to Make Repairs.

Charged with robbing Col. John Jacob Astor's residence at Sixty-fifth street and Fifth avenue, James Mitchell and John Frazer, the layers employed by the Jackson Architectural Iron Works, were arrested in the West Side court yesterday and held for examination to-day. Police man O'Connor of the West Thirty-seventh street station said that the employer of the men had sent for him and turned them over to him.

O'Connor said he was told that the men had been robbing Col. Astor's sewing room and that after they had left a pair of gold mounted on a pair of silver of gold buckles, a silver hair brush and several pairs of shoes were missing. The loss was reported to the Jackson company by a servant from Col. Astor's house and the company then called him in to make the arrest.

Soldiers' Monument Dedicated.

SARATOGA, Oct. 17.—Gen. O. O. Howard of Burlington, Vt., and Col. H. D. Ellsworth of Canton, N. Y., made addresses and Wallace Bruce of New York city read a poem at the dedication at Schuylerville this afternoon of the monument to the soldiers of the civil war. The celebration was a double one, as to-day is the 127th anniversary of the battle of Saratoga, the granite monument of which is located at Schuylerville.

Pansy Corsets.

French people appreciate the great importance of little details, and every part of the Pansy Corset is constructed with the utmost care.

Only the best materials are used in its manufacture—it is one of the very few corsets in which genuine whalebone is used throughout, insuring both suppleness and durability.

The style and variety of the models make it possible to fit stout, medium and slender figures as perfectly as if the corset were made to order. We know of no other corset which gives greater comfort to the wearer. Prices \$6.00 to \$28.00.

James McCutcheon & Co. 14 West 23d Street.

CHURCH LOSING GROUND OR NOT.

Baptist Pastor Says It Is—Presbyterian Down on Such Statements.

At the Methodist preachers' meeting yesterday the Rev. Dr. George P. Eckman, pastor of St. Paul's Church, speaking about "Methodism and the Social Situation," said:

In the working classes there has arisen a distrust of the Church. The workman has come to feel that the Church is not for him; that it is not especially interested in his welfare. He looks upon it as an organization of the well-to-do, in which he is not welcome and in which he has no voice. The duty of Methodism lies in a return to former democratic conditions. A study must be made of the point of view of the working people so that confidence in the church may be restored.

The prohibition candidate for President, the Rev. Dr. Silas C. Swallow, took part in the discussion that followed the paper. In general he agreed with the sentiments expressed by Dr. Eckman.

The Rev. Arthur C. McMillan of Yonkers, speaking yesterday before the Presbyterian Ministers' Association, urged his fellow pastors to be sure of their facts before they made assertions that the Church is losing ground, that men are no longer interested in religion and that church attendance is falling off, and added:

I do not expect you to be all optimists, but you can tell the truth about conditions in this matter that is the salvation of the Church. The world has never been a friend to the Church and never will be. But when our own brothers say stinging things about the ministry we are indeed interested in religion and that church attendance is falling off, and added:

SIX DEAD IN THE FIRE.

Police and Firemen Think It Was the Work of an Incendiary.

Six persons were killed and many were injured by the fire early yesterday morning in the large five-story tenement house at 15 Moore street, Williamsburg. The corrected list of the dead and injured is as follows:

DEAD.

GLASS, MRS. BELLA, 29 years old.

GLASS, HENRY, 2 years old.

SCHWARTZ, ROSA, 6 years old.

WARTSKY, BETZIE, 14 years old.

WARTSKY, BENJAMIN, 10 years old.

WARTSKY, CHARLES, 3 years old.

INJURED.

GLASS, DORA, 8 years old.

GLASS, HARRY, 6 years old.

RUBINOWITZ, MAX, 6 years old.

RUBINOWITZ, SARAH, 4 years old.

WARTSKY, ALEXANDER, 9 years old.

WARTSKY, JACOB, 10 years old.

WARTSKY, MINNIE, 5 years old.

The fire is being investigated by Fire Marshal Beers. The police and firemen think it was the work of an incendiary.

The four who were found dead were removed in a patrol wagon to the Stagg street police station. Two of the injured, Betzie and Charles Wartschy, died soon after reaching St. Catherine's Hospital, and last evening Dr. William Moltrier, a member of the visiting staff, who was in attendance on the injured children, expressed the opinion that they would probably all die.

The Solotovsky family was to have moved from the house at 5 o'clock yesterday morning and had all their furniture packed up. Eight-year-old Isaac Rubintovitch was believed to have perished. While the firemen were searching for him in the building, he was found in a dwelling at 14 Moore street.

BURNED IN BARGE'S HOLD.

Painter Upped Lamp and Started Hot Blaze—Scrambled Out, but May Die.

While John Cook, a deckhand on the large Thomas J. Freeman of Haverstraw, lying at the foot of East Nineteenth street, was painting in the hold yesterday afternoon, he upset a lamp, which ignited the paint and caused a fierce fire. Cook was badly burned, but managed to reach the deck, where others of the crew rolled him in a piece of sail cloth and tore off his burning clothes. He was taken to Bellevue, where his condition is said to be serious. The fireboat William L. Strong ran alongside the barge and put out the fire.

\$7,000 JOB GOES VACANT.

Not for Lack of Candidates, Says the Mayor—Contrariwise.

The Mayor has not yet filled the vacancy in the Tax Board caused by the resignation of John J. Brady, who has been appointed West 163d street, who was arrested last week for selling an imitation. Mr. Battle said that Lyon had a wife and child and came of very respectable people, and that he had furnished evidence that would result in the arrest of several others engaged in the sale of spurious drugs. Justice Hinesdale discharged Lyon.

Small Bootblacks Kept Out of School.

The Boot Polishers' Union has started an agitation for taking boy bootblacks who ought to be at school of the streets. It says that boys between 8 and 12 years old who should not be working at all are going about with small kits shining shoes.

James McCreery & Co.

Silks.

On Tuesday, October 18th.

5000 yards—All Silk Satin Duchesse.

Ivory white, cream and black

75c per yard.

Twenty-third Street.

James McCreery & Co.

Black Dress Goods.

2nd Floor.

1200 yards. Black, Silk and Wool, French Chiffon Eolienne.

\$1.00 per yard usual price \$1.50

900 yards. Black, Silk and Wool, French Crepe-de-Paris.

\$1.00 per yard usual price \$1.50

Twenty-third Street.

HEARS FROM SON 10 YEARS LOST.

Huerab Has Lived Among Black Men and Reports a Fortune Gained.

A letter from Robert H. Huerab, who disappeared ten years ago, was received yesterday by his mother, who lives at 628 East 152d street. Ten years ago Huerab left his home in Aix-la-Chapelle to go to Cape Town. The vessel he sailed on was never heard from again and his family gave him up as lost. Soon after his departure the family came to New York.

A few days ago a cablegram came to his mother signed "Ragetta," and telling of his safe return. Ragetta is the name of a cousin who resided at 500 East 143d street. Huerab's mother thought the cablegram was some sort of hoax until a letter was received from her son yesterday in which he says among other things that he had abandoned his own name and adopted his cousin's. He tells of many months of wandering about Africa and his ultimate falling into good fortune. He says:

"I have acquired a considerable fortune and intend coming to America when the weather becomes warmer. I have spent the last six years in Te-te, Portuquise, Africa, and fear the cold of New York."

Mrs. Huerab when seen last night said: "Yes, it is true that we have heard from my son and that he is coming here in the spring. We had given him up for lost for many years, and it was a great surprise to hear from him."

Huerab says in his letter that he has spent the time of his wanderings with none but "black men."

BLACK BEAR IN HIS ORCHARD.

Farmer Fulcher Gets a Poss of Fifty Men to Hunt for It.

UTICA, Oct. 17.—Albert Fulcher, a farmer living near Camden, galloped into that village astride one of his plough horses to-day and reported that he had seen a black bear near his home, a mile from the village. Bears are not exactly common in that neighborhood, and the mere announcement was enough to throw the sportsmen of the village into a fever of excitement, but when Mr. Fulcher added that the bear was a great, big fellow, that would weigh about four hundred pounds, then there was a scramble to tag it.

All the good guns and some of the old guns were hastily taken down. There was a hurrying and scurrying for ammunition of the right kind, and it was not long before fifty men were headed for Wolcott Hill to interview Bruin. There were twenty-two men in one party. Mr. Fulcher said that he saw the bear in his orchard. The animal was tearing open sacks of apples which had been left out over night. At last reports the bear had not been overtaken.

FATHER SMITH NOT PARALYZED.

Fire Chaplain Suffering From Congestion—Speedy Recovery Looked For.

The condition of Father William St. Elmo Smith, chaplain of the Fire Department, is not so serious as was at first reported. He is not suffering from paralysis, but is rapidly recovering from a severe congestion. Father Smith has been a patient in Miss A. Alston's private sanitarium, at 26 West Sixty-first street, for the last ten days. He will be removed tomorrow morning to the home of his brother, Dr. George La Breche Smith, at 318 West Ninety-first street.

Besides his duties in the Fire Department, Father Smith is attached to the parish of St. Vincent de Paul's Church, on West Twenty-third street. He was stricken in his room at the rectory there two weeks ago this morning.

Father Smith is 39 years old. He was appointed a fire chaplain in September, 1899.

Policeman and Negro Killed.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Oct. 17.—In an effort to arrest a negro known as John Pop this morning one policeman was killed, two others were shot and the negro himself killed. Robert Jamieson, a policeman after being shot, died within a few minutes. John Morviff, another policeman, was shot through the leg and seriously wounded, while Capt. O. H. Perry is wounded in the hand.

Aged Woman Run Over and Killed.

A woman about 80 years old was run over and killed yesterday at the corner of Fifth street and Eighth avenue by a horse and wagon driven by Samuel Sonn of 324 East Forty-eighth street, who was locked up. The woman was trying to pick her way across the crowded street, and the tangle of cars and vehicles did not see the wagon until she was under the horses' feet. She wore a black and white dress, a black cloth skirt and a small straw bonnet, and had a string of prayer beads about her neck.

Supervising Nurse for Bellevue.

The office of supervising nurse has been created at Bellevue Hospital, and Thomas G. Anderson has been appointed to it. He is to have charge of the receiving room and decide what cases are in need of immediate attention. There has been some complaint in the past that patients needing immediate care were left to await their turn while trifling injuries were dressed.

The Wonder of the World

Is at this moment 1057 miles from New York, and the people of the metropolis are going in large numbers.

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offer a splendid train service with rates to suit all classes of people who want to see the greatest exposition the world has ever had.

Now in full blast at St. Louis, and a wonderful success. Not in 50 years will you see it like again.

Our ticket agents will give full particulars.

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COACH EXCURSIONS EVERY WEDNESDAY.

Round Trip, \$18.00.

Apply at any Erie Ticket Office.

Chambers and West 23d St. Ferris, N. Y.; Jersey City Station; 333 Fulton St., Brooklyn; 182 Market St., Newark, N. J.; 122 River St., Hoboken, N. J.

Olive brown is "different." It has just a suspicion of green in the cloth. Greenish-brown tone is nature's idea of a perfect shade. A clever suit is an olive brown Cheviot—perfectly plain—with a fairly large diagonal weave. Built into a double-breasted suit for \$20. If the fit isn't what you expect, we don't expect you to take the garments. Send for samples, measuring outfit and fashion cards.

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FILTHY CROTON WATER

GET A GATE CITY FILTER.

Will make it PURE AND SPARKLING.

15 EAST 14TH STREET, CITY.

MORPHINE VICTIM'S DIARY.

Told All About Him When He Hanged Himself After a Day at the Races.

The body of a well-dressed man was found hanging to the limb of an elm tree in Pelham Bay Park yesterday afternoon. The man had committed suicide by hanging himself with a silk pocket handkerchief. Attached to the limb were two other handkerchiefs, apparently to be used in case the first one failed. Two young men living near by discovered the corpse and notified a policeman. The body was cut down and taken to a patrol wagon to the West Chester station.

WE show you to-day our Double-breasted Sack Coat. You will note that the lapels are perceptibly broader than formerly. This style seems to have the call. Made in all black and blue fabrics as well as in homespuns, chevrons and worsteds, including the new browns, \$15 to \$35

Hackett, Carhart & Co.

Three BROADWAY Stores.

Cor. 13th St. Cor. Canal St. Near Chambers.

Egyptian Cloth SHIRTS

A RARE WEAVE

\$200,000 FIRE IN BUFFALO.

Big Plant of the McLennan Paint Company Burned—Two Firemen Injured.

BUFFALO, Oct. 17.—Fire did between \$150,000 and \$200,000 worth of damage at the big plant of the McLennan Paint Company on Rano street this morning. Twenty thousand gallons of varnish, valued at \$40,000, was included in the property that was destroyed. Two large factory buildings, one of them being the varnish storehouse, were destroyed. Lieut. Nicholas Steffans and Pipeman Smith of the fire department were knocked through a skylight by a falling wall. Smith may die. His hip was fractured and he received internal injuries. Steffans' right leg was broken in several places. The burned buildings will be rebuilt.

Blind, He Committed Suicide.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Oct. 17.—Knowing that he was growing blind and not desiring to live, William Fette, a retired coal merchant, ended his life. His wife wanted to die also, but death only claimed the man. The wife will recover. The couple retired after turning on the gas. This morning the unconscious wife was found beside the body of her husband, to whom she had been wedded nearly half a century.

The Wanamaker Store

Store Closes at 5:30 P. M.

French Dressmaking For New York Women

Monsieur and Madame Dumas-King, in charge of the Wanamaker French Dressmaking Salons, are prepared to take orders for gowns for all occasions.

These distinguished Artistes of Dress offer you the pre-eminent skill that won fame and distinction in Paris itself. They will take your commissions for gowns for the most important dress occasions. They have superb Paris models to show you, in the way of suggestions, or Monsieur King will design a special model for your exclusive use.

But it is to be remembered that they are quite as anxious to serve you in the matter of suits and gowns for every-day wear; and that the same artistic taste and skill will be applied to the making of inexpensive walking suits, as to the more pretentious dresses.

You are invited to visit our French Dressmaking Salons, and talk over the matter at your convenience.

Fifth floor, Tenth street.

Grand Prize and Gold Medal Awarded Wanamaker Furniture

At the St. Louis World's Fair the judges for Furniture have just awarded to William Birch, Ltd., of 370 Euston Road, London, England, the Grand Prize and a Gold Medal, for the finest display of Art Furniture for the Drawing-room, Library and Dining-room.

The Messrs. Birch are represented in New York by The Wanamaker Store. Their exhibition of fine Leather Library and other Furniture is at Stand 402, Varied Industries Building, and has been purchased by us. It will be shown here in December.

Orders for duplication of the pieces will be taken by our representative at St. Louis, for direct importation.

The exhibition was arranged for, by us, with the Messrs. Birch, a year prior to the opening of the World's Fair.

Examples of the Leather Furniture are to be found in the Furniture Store, Fourth floor.

Three Stylish New Coats—Copies of Imported Models

These coats are not only copied from the handsomest of our foreign model coats, but they are made up of excellent quality of plush and velour, producing probably the most elegant and attractive coats, that can be made of anything outside of handsome fur.

It is only necessary to look at these Coats to recognize the fact that in the regular way they would be worth one-third to one-half more; and yet they are epic-span-new, specially made, and now shown for the first time.

At \$35 A crushed velour blouse; black shawl collar of dotted velvet edged with braid; belt of heavy white figured silk.

At \$16.50 A crushed plush coat; 27 inches long; fitted back; collar lined with contrasting cloth; trimmed with braid; full sleeves with a gauntlet cuff; finished with a peplum.

At \$33 A crushed velour blouse in a beautiful shade; standing collar and vest effect of cloth; trimmed with braid; garment has plaited back and front; full sleeves with a gauntlet cuff; finished with a peplum.

Second floor, Broadway.

French Dress Goods At Half Price

The offering includes over-plaid tailor suitings in attractive combinations; mohair nub figured tailor suitings; polka-dot fancy suitings; prunella cloth with mohair mixture, and panne cheviot.

All are forty-eight inches wide, and sell regularly at \$2 and \$3. You can choose today, at \$1 and \$1.25 a yard.

Rotunda.

Pictures at 50c

This is an attractive collection of Colored Prints in figure and landscape subjects, framed in shadow box frames, finished in either green or black; size 10x12 inches.

These Pictures are worth 75c; today at the special price of 50c each.

Picture Store, Fifth floor.

Axminster Carpets At \$1 a Yard

We have secured, and placed on sale this morning, about nine thousand yards of one of the best-known grades of Axminster Carpets selling regularly at \$1.35, and now offered at \$1 a yard.

These carpets are shown in quite a satisfying variety of patterns, which, in most instances, have borders to match. It is an unusual opportunity in high-class, staple carpets in such desirable patterns.

Be sure to bring measurements and plans of your rooms, as it will be necessary to choose the carpets, and have them cut today.

Third floor.

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Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co. Broadway, 4th Ave., 9th and 10th Sts.